

**Amendments to the Claims:**

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Original) A method for thermal crystallization of neck (2) characterized in that the thermal crystallization is carried out under the condition that a jig (11) of an inverted support type is loaded with a synthetic resin preform (1) for use in the biaxial drawing and blow molding process, wherein said inverted preform (1) is installed on said jig (11) so that a gap (G) is formed under top surface (2a) of the neck (2) of said preform (1).

2. (Original) The method for thermal crystallization according to Claim 1 characterized in that the gap (G) is formed under the top surface (2a) of the neck (2) of said preform (1) by utilizing said jig (11) having an upright support unit (13) and by inserting said support unit (13) into the preform (1) along the central axis to the limit of insertion determined previously by the contact of a portion of the support unit (13) with a certain inner wall portion of the preform (1) so that the inverted preform (1) can be fitted to the jig (11).

3. (Original) The method for thermal crystallization according to Claim 2 characterized in that the method is applied by allowing end portion of the support unit (13) to come in direct contact with inner wall of bottom (4) of the preform (1).

4. (Original) The method for thermal crystallization according to Claim 2 characterized in that the method is applied by allowing the support unit (13) at its certain height to come in direct contact peripherally with a prescribed zone of inner wall of the body (3) of the preform (1).

5. (Original) The method for thermal crystallization according to Claim 4 characterized in that the method is applied by using a support unit (13) having a tapered support portion (13a) that narrows at a given height toward the top end and by allowing said tapered support portion (13a) to come in direct contact peripherally with inner wall of a tapered portion of the body (3) of the preform (1), said tapered body portion being disposed in the upper area of the body (3) and becoming narrow partly toward the bottom (4).

6. (Original) The method for thermal crystallization according to Claim 2 characterized in that the jig (11) having a bore control device (17) is used, and that this bore control device (17) is used as the support unit (13) by fitting this device into the neck (2) in direct contact with the inner neck wall.

7. (Currently Amended) The method for thermal crystallization according to Claim 1, ~~2, 3, 4,~~ 5, ~~or 6~~ characterized in that the preform (1) is made of a resin of the polyethylene terephthalate series.

8. (New) The method for thermal crystallization according to Claim 2 characterized in that the preform (1) is made of a resin of the polyethylene terephthalate series.

9. (New) The method for thermal crystallization according to Claim 3 characterized in that the preform (1) is made of a resin of the polyethylene terephthalate series.

10. (New) The method for thermal crystallization according to Claim 4 characterized in that the preform (1) is made of a resin of the polyethylene terephthalate series.

11. (New) The method for thermal crystallization according to Claim 5 characterized in that the preform (1) is made of a resin of the polyethylene terephthalate series.

12. (New) The method for thermal crystallization according to Claim 6 characterized in that the preform (1) is made of a resin of the polyethylene terephthalate series.